

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT M 00117 200023Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
DLOS-09 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02
DOE-11 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13
JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01
PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /159 W
-----070619 200026Z /20

P R 192300Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2979
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY SUVA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT MORESBY 0117

TOKYO ALSO FOR RFO

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS PORG EFIS XP XU PP
SUBJECT: SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES AGENCY

REF: 77 PORT MORESBY 1849

1. I HAVE TALKED TO BOTH AUSTRALIAN ACTING HICOM WILLIAMS
AND NEW ZEALAND HICOM MANSFIELD ABOUT PNG POSITION ON
HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES AND US PARTICIPATION IN SP REGIONAL
FISHERIES AGENCY (SPRFA). BOTH BELIEVE THAT GEOFFREY DABB,
EXPATRIATE ADVISOR IN DFAT, IS DETERMINING PNG POSITION
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AND IS BEING VERY STUBBORN IN DEFENDING HIS VIEWS WITHIN
GPNG.

2. WILLIAMS SAID DABB IS VERY CLOSE TO FONMIN OLEWALE,
PROBABLY CLOSER THAN FONSEC TONY SIAGURU. SAID
DABB HAS BEEN VERY DIFFICULT ON TORRES STRAITS ISSUE.

3. MANSFIELD SAID DABB IS ADVOCATING DELAYING NEXT MEETING ON SPRFA UNTIL AFTER JUNE. MANSFIELD THINKS THIS IS DELAYING TACTIC. SAID DABB IS OPPOSED TO US PARTICIPATION SEEMINGLY BECAUSE HE BELIEVES US WOULD EXPLOIT MEMBERSHIP IN SPRFA TO ITS OWN ADVANTAGE AND TO DETRIMENT OF SOUTH PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES.

4. BOTH WILLIAMS AND MANSFIELD BELIEVE PNG IS ISOLATED ON THIS ISSUE IN SOUTH PACIFIC. MANSFIELD IS EXPECTING INSTRUCTION FROM WELLINGTON TO MAKE FORMAL APPROACH IN DFAT TO TALK TO ANYONE EXCEPT DABB TO TRY TO PERSUADE GPNG TO GO ALONG WITH MARCH MEETING IN SUVA AND TO GET INTO LINE WITH OTHER FORUM COUNTRIES.

5. SUBJECT OF SPRFA IS EXPECTED TO BE DISCUSSED AT SIDE MEETING OF REGIONAL COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE IN CANBERRA NEXT MONTH. BOTH PM SOMARE AND FONMIN OLEWALE WILL ATTEND FOR PNG. WILLIAMS THINKS DABB WILL NOT ATTEND. MANSFIELD AND WILLIAMS HOPE PNG CAN BE BROUGHT AROUND AT THAT MEETING.

6. WHEN I WAS ON CONSULTATION IN DECEMBER I WAS INFORMED BY OFA THAT GPNG WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE US POSITION AS RESULT OF BRIEFINGS AT SUVA MEETING. APPEARS TO ME, HOWEVER, WE ARE RELYING ON PERSON MOST OPPOSED TO US POSITION (DABB) TO CONVEY IT TO OTHERS IN GPNG.
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7. ASST. SEC. HOLBROOKE MADE FORCEFUL PRESENTATION OF US POSITION TO MINISTER OF LABOR AND COMMERCE LEMEKE ON JAN 4. HOWEVER, EVEN THOUGH DFAT REP WAS PRESENT AT MEETING AND TOOK NOTES, WE CANNOT BE ASSURED MESSAGE GOT TO PEOPLE WHO WILL MAKE DECISION.

8. I BELIEVE INFORMAL, LOW KEY APPROACH TO OLEWALE WOULD BE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF CONVEYING US POSITION. I SEE HIM OFTEN ENOUGH TO BE ABLE TO DO IT CASUALLY. I WILL NEED, HOWEVER, A MORE DETAILED AND PRECISE STATEMENT OF US POSITION THAN WE HAVE YET RECEIVED. DOES USG CARE WHETHER MARCH MEETING IS DELAYED?

9. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE TRANSMIT STATEMENT OF US POSITION INDICATED IN PARA 7.
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Message Attributes

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Concepts: FISHERIES, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 19 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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